ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A high-temperature pressing apparatus silica is provided for the manufacture of wood composite boards, in which the temperature of the platens in the pressing apparatus can be effectively regulated to improve energy efficiency, reducing press cycle length, and minimize the possibly of press fires. The apparatus comprises a press having platens for forming the board; and a means for regulating the temperature of the platens. The regulating means includes means for circulating a heating fluid through the platens, means for detecting the temperature of the heating fluids as it exits the platens; and means for responding to the detected temperature for heating the fluid supplied to the platens.